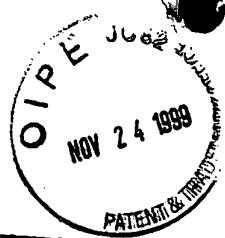


Page 1



Attorney's Docket No. DECLE2.001APC

DECLARATION - USA PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled PLANT MICROPROPAGATION AND GERMPLASM STORAGE; the specification of which was filed as International Application No. PCT/EP98/01117 on 19 February 1998;

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above;

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56;

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)Priority
ClaimedNo.: 97200513.6
97200701.7Country: Europe
EuropeDate Filed: 21 February 1997
10 March 1997Yes
Yes

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of first inventor: Koenraad Hilaire Maria GoethalsInventor's signature: Koenraad Hilaire Maria GoethalsDate 25-08-99Residence: Bollewerkstraat 85, B-9031 Gent, BelgiumCitizenship: Belgium

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Attorney's Docket No. DECLE2.001APC

Full name of Second inventor: Mondher El Jaziri

Inventor's signature 

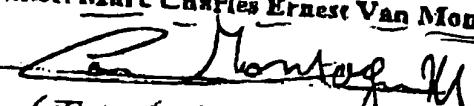
Date 01-09-99

Residence: Place de la Gare 10, B-1150 Woluwe Saint Pierre, Belgium 

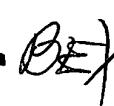
Citizenship: Belgium

Post Office Address: same as above

Full name of Third inventor: Marc Charles Ernest Van Montagu

Inventor's signature 

Date 24/07/99

Residence: De Stassartstraat 120, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium 

Citizenship: Belgium

Post Office Address: same as above

Send Correspondence To:

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP
Customer No. 20,995

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08/09/99

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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL-ENTITY STATUS

I, the undersigned, do hereby declare that:

I am an official empowered to act on behalf of the nonprofit organization identified below.

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: Vlaams Interuniversitair Instituut Voor Biotechnologie
ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION: Rijvisschestraat 118, Bus 1, D-9052 Zwijnaarde, Belgium
TYPE OF ORGANIZATION:

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: Universite' Libre de Bruxelles
ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION: Avenue F.D. Roosevelt 50, B. 1050 Brussels, Belgium
TYPE OF ORGANIZATION:

University or other institution of higher education.

I further declare that the nonprofit organization identified above qualifies as a nonprofit organization as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(e) for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and Trademark Office regarding the invention described in the patent or application identified above.

The individual, concern or organization identified above has not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed, and is under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

If the rights held by the above-identified individual, concern or organization are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights in the invention are identified below. Each such individual, concern or organization must file separate verified statements averring to their status as small entities.

***NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27).**

FULL NAME: Vlaams Interuniversitair Instituut voor Biotechnologie
ADDRESS: Rijvisschestraat 120, B-9052 Zwijnaarde, Belgium
[] INDIVIDUAL [] SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN [] NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small-entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)).
I hereby declare that all statements made herein are true.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NOV 24 1998
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE
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TYPE OF ORGANIZATION:

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ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION: Avenue F.D. Roosevelt 50, B. 1050 Brussels, Belgium
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If the rights held by the above-identified individual, concern or organization are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights in the invention are identified below. Each such individual, concern or organization must file separate verified statements averring to their status as small entities.

*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27).

FULL NAME: Université Libre de Bruxelles
ADDRESS: Avenue F.D. Roosevelt 50, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium
[] INDIVIDUAL [] SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN [] NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Applicant or Patentee: Goethals, Rudy
Application or Patent No.: International PCT/EP98/01117
Filed or Issued: International 19 February 1998
For: PLANT MICROPROPAGATION AND GERMPLASM STORAGE

Attorney's Docket No.: DECLE2.001APC

Page 2

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING: Rudy Dekeyser

TITLE OF PERSON (if not an owner or individual): Vice General Director & Technology Transfer Manager
ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING: Rijvisschestraat 118, Bus 1, D-9052 Zwijnaarde, Belgium

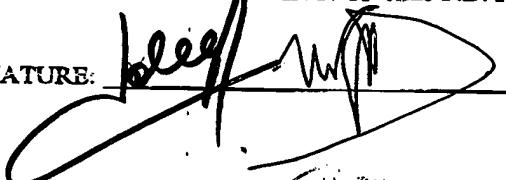
SIGNATURE: 

DATE: 22/10/99

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING: Jean-Louis Vanherwegen

TITLE OF PERSON (if not an owner or individual): Recteur

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING: Avenue F.D. Roosevelt 50, B. 1050 Brussels, Belgium

SIGNATURE: 

DATE: 18/10/1999

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